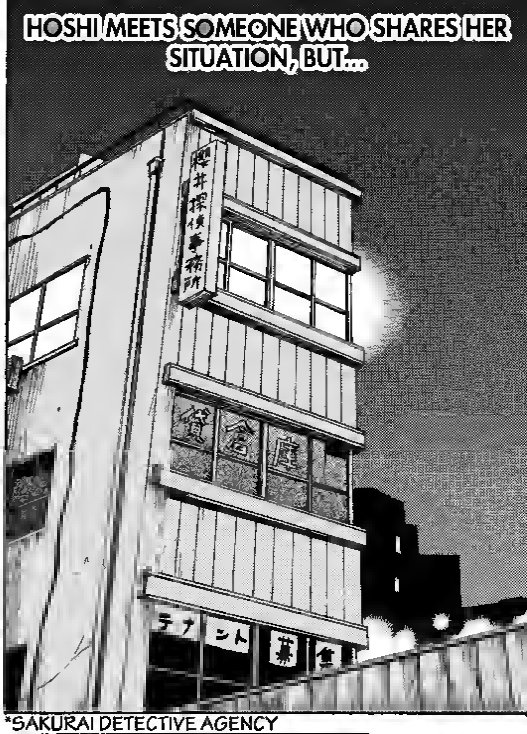
THE SAD DAILY LIVES OF THOSE WHO AWAKENED TO SUPERPOWERS THEY NEVER WANTED.

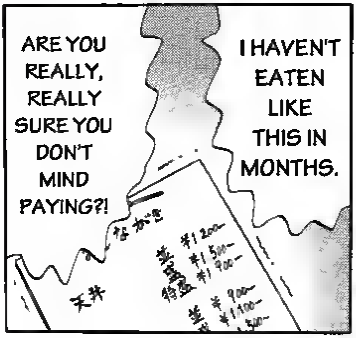
STARLIGHT WOMAN

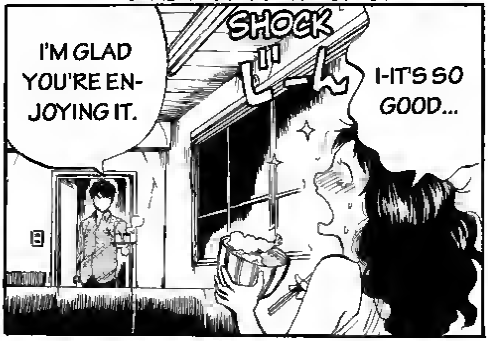
CHAPTER 03: TWO OF HEARTS

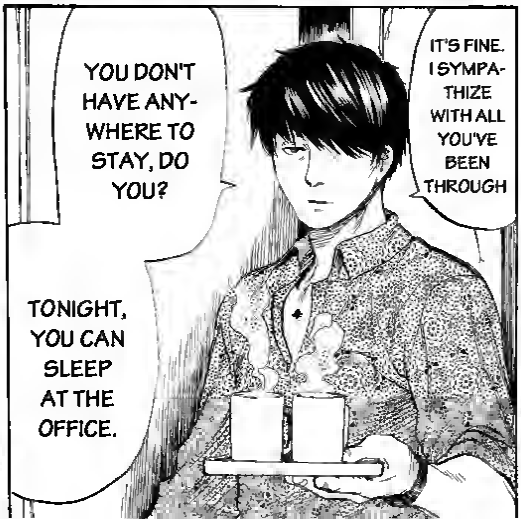
RIE KANOU



*SAKURAI DETECTIVE AGENCY






YOU DON'T HAVE ANYWHERE TO STAY, DO YOU?
IT'S FINE. I SYMPATHIZE WITH ALL YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH
TONIGHT, YOU CAN SLEEP AT THE OFFICE.

YOU'VE GOT A NICE OFFICE.
DON'T EVEN TRY IT.
I KNOW PERFECTLY WELL THAT IT'S A MESS.
ふう
SIGH
THANKS FOR THE FOOD
カラン
CLINK
THE CLOSER I AM TO PEOPLE, THE LOUDER THEIR THOUGHTS
WHEN I WORKED AT A COMPANY, EVERY DAY WAS LIKE BEING IN A TINY CONCERT HALL. I THOUGHT I'D GO INSANE
IN THAT RESPECT, THIS PLACE IS FAR BETTER.
BUT I LIKE IT.
NO ONE TO MY LEFT OR RIGHT
AND NO ONE ABOVE OR BELOW. I LIKE HAVING NO NEIGHBORS
?
STRETCH
グ〜ン
!
IT'S BETTER, BUT IT ISN'T LIKE I CAN'T HEAR ANYTHING
UNLESS I'M NEAR YOU

DOES THAT MAKE IT QUIET?
I'M SORRY FOR DOUBTING YOU EARLIER.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE WORKING WITH THE ALIENS.
I NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D BE LIKE ME.
ACTUALLY, I'VE BEEN SO LONELY.
IT SEEMS LIKE FOREVER SINCE I'VE FELT THIS RELAXED.
I'M GLAD TO HEAR IT.
ANYWAY, I'D LOVE TO STAY, BUT I'VE GOT TO DO SOME WORK.
AT THIS HOUR?

I HATE TO ASK.
BUT I'D LIKE YOUR HELP WITH SOME-THING...
YOU... YOU'RE A DETEC-TIVE, RIGHT?
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT TIME IT IS. THAT'S THE WAY THIS JOB WORKS.
YOU JUST GET SOME REST.
W-WAIT, SAKU-RAI-SAN...
JUST CALL ME SAKU-RAI
AND THE BATH-ROOM'S OUT THE HALL, TO THE
THAT ISN'T IT!
IT'S FINE.
I STILL HAVE SOME TIME. TELL ME WHAT'S UP.
WHAT IS IT?
IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE NOW. WE CAN TALK ABOUT IT TO-MORROW...
I CAME TO TOKYO FROM THE COUNTRY, TO GO TO SCHOOL.
I...
SIGH
...

ANYWAY, FORGET IT. I'LL CONTINUE.
ONCE I GRAOUATED, I PLANNED TO GO BACK HOME.
OH! GUNMA!
I'M SURPRISED THAT REALLY IS THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE
HAHAHAHA
WHAT?!
HMM, I SEE.
WHERE'S "THE COUNTRY"?
GUNMA.
RIGHT BEFORE GRADUATION, I WAS ABDUCTED BY THE ALIENS.
BUT I WASN'T ABLE TO.
I'VE BEEN SENDING LETTERS HOME, BUT I CAN'T EXPLAIN WHAT'S HAPPENING. AND I HAVEN'T ACTUALLY TALKED TO THEM.
IT'S TOO FAR AWAY FOR ME AND NO MATTER WHERE I RUN THE ALIENS WILL FOLLOW. I CAN'T CAUSE TROUBLE FOR MY FAMILY.
SINCE THEN, IT'S BEEN SIX MONTHS OR SO. AND I'VE BEEN ON THE RUN THE WHOLE TIME.

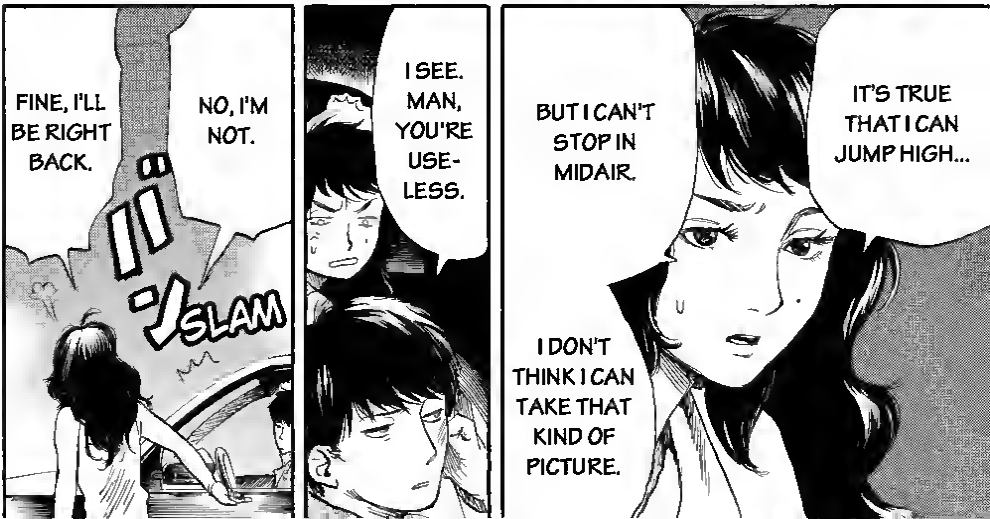
I'M WORRIED...
...ABOUT THEM.
YOU WANT ME TO CHECK ON THEM.
WELL, THERE ARE PLENTY OF WAYS I COULD.
MY JOB TAKES ME ALL AROUND JAPAN, SO I COULD EVEN GO AND CHECK ON THEM DIRECTLY.
STEP
THEN, BASICALLY...
RE...
REALLY?
THANK YOU. I'LL PAY YOU SOME...
HOWEVER, THIS IS BUSINESS TO ME.
IN OTHER WORDS...
SINCE YOU HAVE NO MONEY...
I'M SYMPATHETIC TO YOUR SITUATION, AND I DON'T MIND HELPING WITH STUFF LIKE FOOD.
THUD
BUT I CAN'T TAKE ON A JOB FOR FREE.

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO PAY ME?
HOTEL

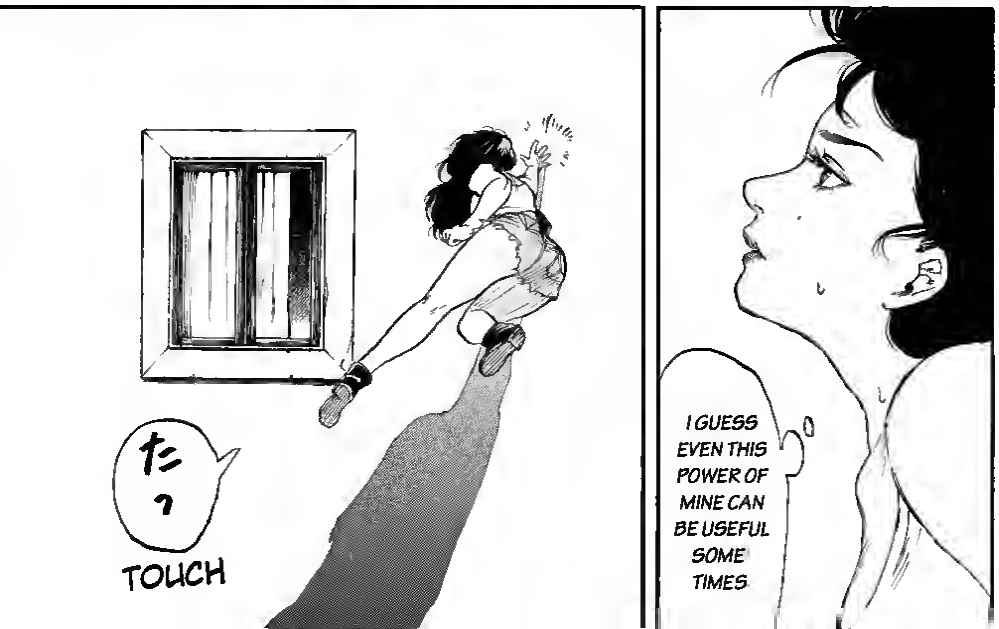
MY CLIENT SUSPECTS HE'S CHEATING, AND SHE HIRED ME TO INVESTIGATE.
.....
THIS IS THE HOTEL WHERE MY CLIENT'S HUSBAND MEETS HIS LOVER.
AND SO...
I NEED PHYSICAL PROOF, BUT HE'S SLIPPERY...
BUT NATURALLY, I CAN'T PUT, "I READ HIS MIND," IN MY REPORT TO THE CLIENT.
AND... WELL, HE IS. I FOLLOWED HIM IN TOWN, AND HIS HEAD WAS FULL OF THE OTHER WOMAN'S IMAGE.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GOT THE WRONG IDEA! THAT REALLY HURT!
IF YOU WANTED ME TO HELP WITH YOUR JOB, JUST ASK!
WHY DID YOU HAVE TO MAKE IT SOUND SO WEIRD?!
I GET ALL THAT, BUT...
AT TIMES LIKE THESE, I REALIZE HOW INEXPERIENCED I AM AS A DETECTIVE

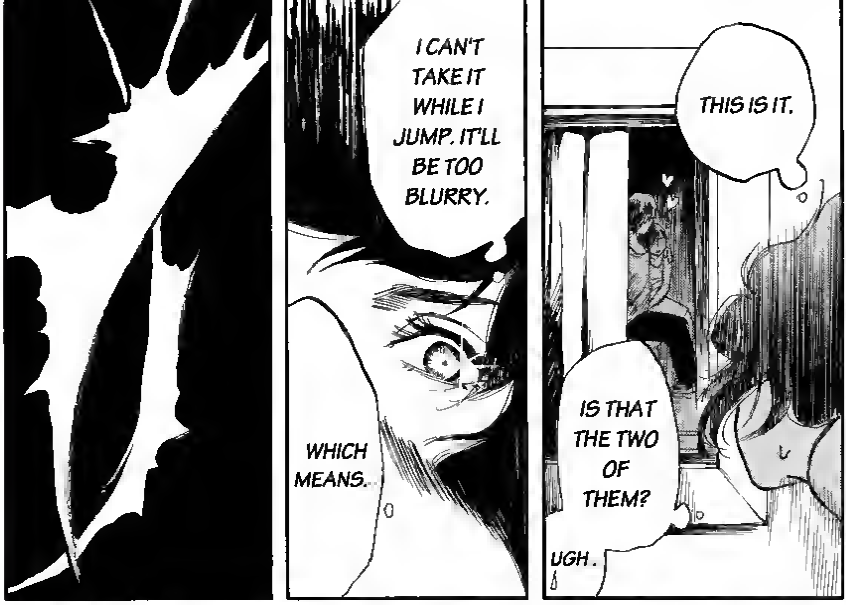
I WANT YOU TO JUMP UP THERE.
THEN PHOTOGRAPH THE TWO OF THEM TOGETHER.
HUH?
THE HUSBAND AND HIS LOVER HAVE A ROOM ON THE SEVENTH FLOOR OF THIS HOTEL.
WHAT?!
THOUGH, I DID THINK IF YOU GOT THE WRONG IDEA, THAT'D BE JUST FINE.
LOOK, FORGET IT. ANYWAY, HERE.
"HERE"?
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO WITH THIS?

OH, UH... LISTEN.
BACK THERE, YOU WERE JUMPING ALL OVER THE PLACE
THIS SHOULD BE EASY FOR YOU.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "HUH"?


FINE, I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.
NO, I'M NOT.
SLAM
I SEE. MAN, YOU'RE USELESS.
BUT I CAN'T STOP IN MIDAIR.
I DON'T THINK I CAN TAKE THAT KIND OF PICTURE.
IT'S TRUE THAT I CAN JUMP HIGH...

WHOA...
WOW!
JUMP
IF THIS WORKS, YOU'LL TAKE MY JOB, RIGHT?
HA HA... WHAT-EVER YOU WANT
THEN IT'S A PROM-ISE


たっ
TOUCH
I GUESS EVEN THIS POWER OF MINE CAN BE USEFUL SOME TIMES

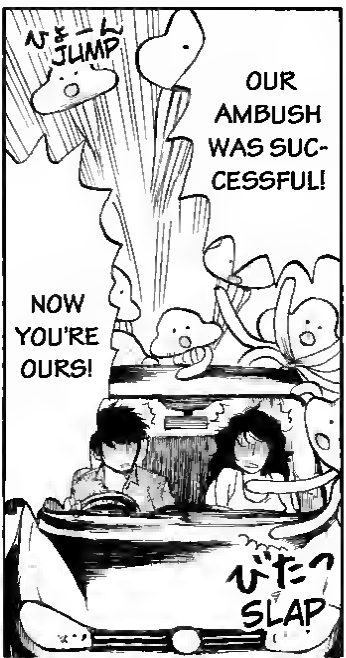

I CAN'T TAKE IT WHILE I JUMP. IT'LL BE TOO BLURRY.
WHICH MEANS...
THIS IS IT.
IS THAT THE TWO OF THEM?
UGH.

CLANG
カラン
WHOOSH

はあ
HA HA
IT...
IT WORKED
WHOOSH
...
Shsl

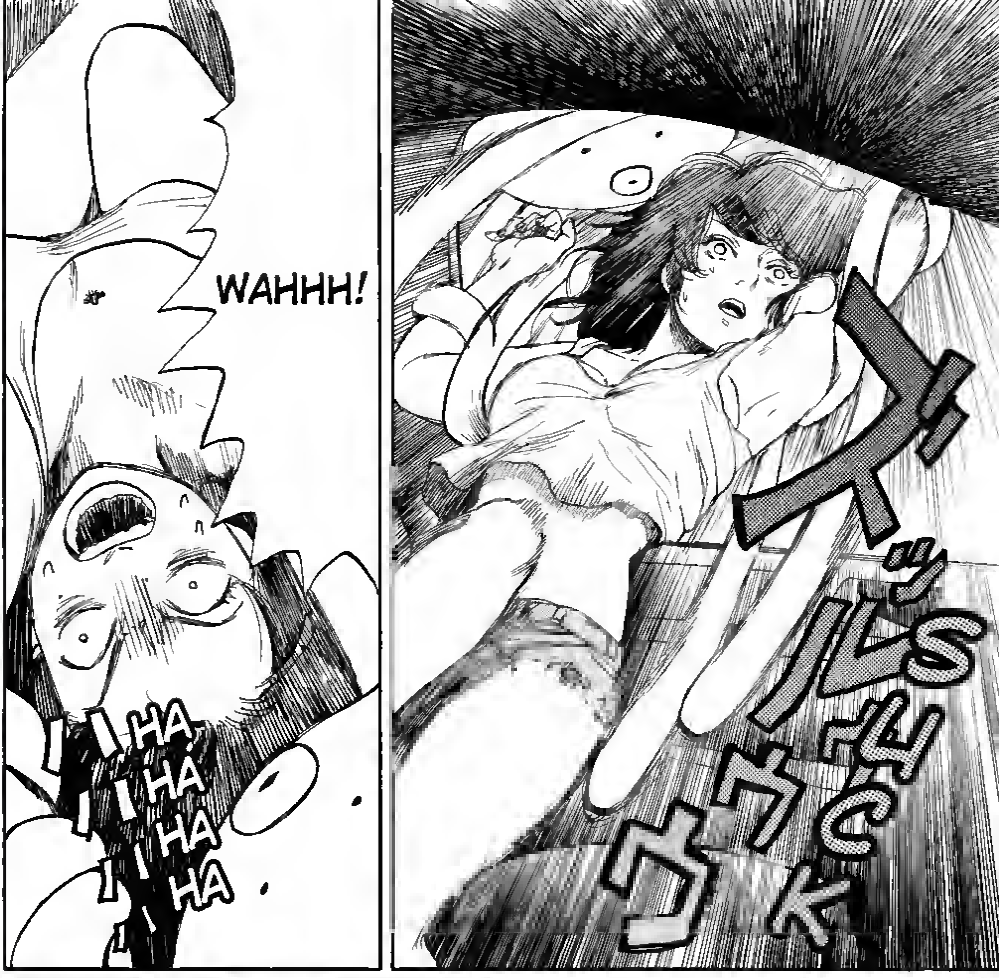
HOTEL
WHISPER
WHISPER
THOUGH IT ISN'T AS IF...
...THAT MAKES ME REAL HAPPY.
I GUESS I CAN CONTROL MY POWER NOW.
SLAM
GOT IT!
ACK, THAT SCARED ME.
TAP
WEIRD. IT ISN'T MOVING.
THE EXHAUST IS BACKING UP!
THERE'S SOMETHING BEHIND US?
THERE WAS NO OTHER WAY TO DO IT.
DON'T DO ANYTHING TOO CRAZY.
SCREECH
HMM?

キキッ
SCREECH


ぴょーん
JUMP
OUR AMBUSH WAS SUCCESSFUL!
NOW YOU'RE OURS!
びたっ
SLAP

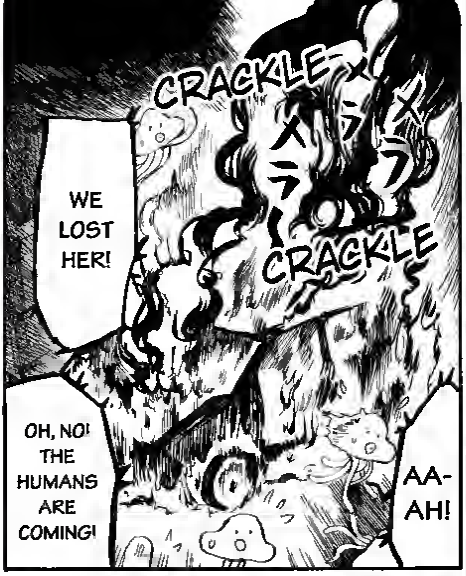
HA HA HA HA!
WE'VE GOT YOU NOW, #214!

AND I STILL HAVEN'T PAID THIS THING OFF.
I'M SORRY.
バリバリ
CRACK
OH, MAN... MY CAR.
WHY AT A TIME LIKE THIS?
ガシャン
CLUNK
HUH?
ウィーン
VRRR
HUH?


WAHHH!
HA HA HA HA
ドスッ
ドサッ
ドサッ

WHAT?
THEY AREN'T AFTER ME.
AND I DON'T WANT TO GET CAUGHT UP IN THIS.
YOU'RE ABANDONING ME?!
PULL
PULL
WEREN'T YOU SAYING YOU WANTED TO BE FRIENDS?
SORRY, BUT IF YOU WANT TO FIGHT, DO IT OUTSIDE.
SURE, BUT...

YOU JERK!
MEANIE!
SMASH
UH...
SOB
BANG
HEY!
WAH! WAH!
YANK
CRASH
STOP IT!
WAIT!
BOOM
SPARK
!!
NO! THE EN-GINE!
OH, CRAP!
SMASH
GAH! DAMN IT, YOU BROKE THE GAS TANK!
UGH..
BOOM
BAM


CRACKLE-
パラパラ
CRACKLE
WE LOST HER!
OH, NO! THE HUMANS ARE COMING!
AA-AH!

RE-TREAT!

I'M SORRY.
I'M SORRY.
BUT...
SERI-OUSLY...
THAT WAS A NEW CAR.
DO THEY ALWAYS BURN LIKE THAT?
YOU'RE TERRIBLE, YOU JERK!
I'M SORRY ABOUT THE CAR, BUT...
YOU JERK!
I HAD NO IDEA YOU WERE SO HEART-LESS!
EITHER APOLOGIZE OR INSULT ME. ONE OR THE OTHER.
YOU SAID...
YOU SAID YOU WERE HAPPY TO MEET ME...
*HOUSE OF PHONE SEX
YOU CAN PAY ME BACK FOR THE CAR.
HUH?
IT'S FINE... YOU JUST RUN AWAY.
FOR NOW, PUT ME DOWN.
I NEED TO COME UP WITH AN EXCUSE FOR THE COPS.
...
8F
I'M SORRY. DON'T CRY.

WHEN I SAID I WAS GLAD WE MET, I MEANT IT.
I HOPE WE SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN.
TAP
とっ
HEY.
L I A R!
JUMP
ぱんぴゃレ
NOT BEING ABLE TO READ MINDS SURE IS INCONVE-NIENT, TOO.
IT'S THE TRUTH, THOUGH.